



Mary Karen Read

Mary Karen Read, a freshman majoring in interdisciplinary studies, was born on Jan. 30, 1988, in Seoul, South Korea. After living in several states, she settled in Annandale, Va.

At Annandale High School, she completed the International Baccalaureate Program; was a member of the National, French, and Tri-M Band honor societies; was president of the high school band; and was a clarinet section leader. She was also a member of Annandale's Homecoming Court, played lacrosse, and participated in winter color guard.

Mary was contemplating a career in elementary education. At Virginia Tech, she was a member of the concert band and Campus Crusade for Christ and had applied to be a Bible study leader. Her deep faith was evident in every aspect of her life.

Although she initially found the size of Virginia Tech daunting, Mary was working hard to assimilate, spending time on campus with hometown friends, her roommate, and a growing number of new acquaintances. She had recently started working in a campus dining hall.

Mary loved spending time with her family and friends, especially on trips to the mountains, the beach, and the lake, and was happiest when helping others, especially

children. Renowned for her beautiful, constant smile and sweet personality, she relished her role of big sister to siblings Stephen (11), Patrick (4), Hannah (4), Brendan (2), and Colleen (10 months).

Mary is sadly missed by her father and stepmother, Pete and Cathy Read of Annandale; mother and stepfather, Yon Son Yi Zhang and Dr. Zhang of Palisades Park, N.J.; and her aunts, uncles, and cousins.



Reema Joseph Samaha

Reema Joseph Samaha was the youngest child of Joseph and Mona Samaha.

A lifelong resident of Centreville, Va., she embraced her Lebanese heritage, staying active in the Melkite Greek Catholic Church and traveling to the Middle East, where she studied languages and cultures.

Reema had an exceptionally warm and close relationship with her parents and adored her brother, Omar, and her sister, Randa, with whom she shared friends, travels, and visits. She also loved spending time with her grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Reema maintained lifelong friendships with diverse people who were drawn to her openness, cheerfulness, creativity, and wit. As a child, she enjoyed performing in comical video productions with neighborhood friends, was named to three youth soccer all-star teams, and began studying Tae Kwon Do.

As Reema matured, she pursued her passions for dance and theater. She performed on the Westfield High School dance team, was a Cappies critics' choice as the featured dancer in Westfield's award-winning production of "Fiddler on the Roof," and belly-danced her way to victory in the school's talent show. She was a member of Westfield's Improvisation Group, earned rave reviews for her lead performance in "Arsenic and Old Lace," and appeared in "Oklahoma." At Virginia Tech, she was a member of the Contemporary Dance Ensemble, the Hill and Veil Middle Eastern Dance Group, and the Cedars of Lebanon Club.

Reema blended her joy of life with seriousness of mind, graduating summa cum laude from Westfield, where she was a member of the National, French, and Science honor societies, and earning a 4.0 GPA at Virginia Tech, where she intended to major in urban planning.

